

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) In a data processing system having a user terminal coupled to a data base management system having a data base in a format incompatible with XML which accesses said data base in accordance with an ordered sequence of command language script via a publicly accessible digital data communication network, the improvement comprising:

- a. a document containing a plurality of elements formatted in XML (extensible markup language) generated by said user terminal transferred via said publicly accessible digital data communication network to said data base management system;
- b. ~~the loading of~~ a document type definition (DTD) which defines the format of said document transferred from said user terminal to said data base management system via said publicly accessible digital data communication network; and
- c. ~~the building of~~ an XML mapping tree that corresponds to said DTD and which defines the transformation of each of said plurality of elements ~~[[is]]~~ mapped for use by said data base management system for entry into said data base.

2. (Original) The improvement according to claim 1 wherein at least one of said plurality of elements further comprises an attribute which is recorded within said XML mapping tree.

3. (Previously Presented) The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said DTD is transferred from said user terminal to said data base management system via said publicly accessible digital data communication network.

4. (Original) The improvement according to claim 3 further comprising a storage space in which an internal representation of the XML element tree corresponding to said DTD is stored for future use.

5. (Original) The improvement according to claim 4 wherein said DTD location path is displayed on said user terminal as a window.

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

- a. a user terminal which generates an XML document;
- b. a Document Type Definition (DTD) which defines the format of said XML document;
- c. a publicly accessible digital data communication network;

d. a data base management system which honors a service request by executing an ordered sequence of command language statements having an input format different from XML responsively coupled to said user terminal via said publicly accessible digital data communication network which receives said XML document and said Document Type Definition via said publicly accessible digital data communication network; and

e. an XML mapping tree responsively coupled to said data base management system which parses said XML document in accordance with said DTD into said input format of said data base management system.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein an internal representation of the XML element tree corresponding to said DTD is stored for future use.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of elements and at least one of said plurality of elements has an attribute.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein an internal representation of the XML element tree corresponding to said DTD is received by said data base management system via said publicly accessible digital data network.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said publicly accessible digital data communication system further comprises the Internet.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of interfacing an XML document from a user terminal to a data base management system having an incompatible input protocol comprising:

- a. transferring said XML document and a corresponding Document Type Definition to said data base management system via a publicly accessible digital data communication network;
- b. parsing said XML document into an XML mapping tree in accordance with [[a]] said Document Type Definition (DTD) corresponding to said XML document; and
- c. presenting said parsed XML document to said data base management system for processing.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11 further comprising the step of saving the internal representation of the XML element tree corresponding to said DTD for future use.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 12 wherein the internal representation of the XML element tree corresponding to said DTD is retrieved from storage.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of elements and at least one element has an attribute.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 14 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

- a. transmitting means for transmitting an XML document;
- b. stating means for stating a DTD associated with said document and transmitting said DTD associated with said document via said transmitting means;
- c. providing means responsively coupled to said transmitting means for providing data base management functions; and
- d. composing means responsively coupled to said providing means for composing said XML document from an XML mapping tree and data in said data base management system based upon said DTD.

17. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said composing means further comprises storing means for storing said parsed XML document for future use.

18. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of elements and at least one of said plurality of elements has an attribute.

19. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 18 wherein said transmitting means further comprises the Internet.

20. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 19 further comprising displaying means for displaying a pathway for said DTD storage location.

21. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for storing an XML document in a data base having a legacy format not compatible with XML comprising:

- a. A user terminal which generates said XML document;
- b. a Document Type Definition (DTD) which defines the format of said XML document;
- c. A legacy data base management system having a data base in said legacy format which receives said XML document from said user terminal responsively coupled to said user terminal via a publicly accessible digital data communication network; and
- d. an XML mapping tree responsively coupled to said data base management system which parses said XML document in

accordance with said DTD into said legacy format of said data base.

22. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for storing an XML document according to claim 21 wherein said user terminal transfers said Document Type Definition (DTD) to said legacy data base management system via said publicly accessible digital data communication network.

23. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for storing an XML document further comprising a repository within said legacy data base management system for storing said XML mapping tree.

24. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for storing an XML document according to claim 23 further comprising a window for display of said DTD on said user terminal.

25. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for storing an XML document according to claim 24 wherein said publicly accessible digital data communication system further comprises the Internet.